

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 167118

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. RE FARRAND APARTMENT. HE WILL NOT BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS MOTHER. IN ADDITION TO WIFE AND CHILD, HE HAS THREE CHILDREN BY PREVIOUS MARRIAGE AND EXPECTS AT LEAST TWO OF THREE TO SPEND ENTIRE SUMMER WITH HIM. A COMPLICATING FACTOR IS THAT FOREIGN CAR HE OWNS CANNOT BE SHIPPED TO POST AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE FOR ANOTHER YEAR AND HE UNDERSTANDS VISHNEVSKAYA APARTMENT EARMARKED FOR HIM NOT NEAR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION. HE HAS ALREADY ORDERED FOOD SHIPMENT FOR DELIVERY ON ARRIVAL AND PROSPECT OF SPENDING SEVEN WEEKS IN TEMPORARY QUARTERS RAISES PROBLEM OF ARRANGING STORAGE ON ARRIVAL. NILES MENTIONED TO HIM THE POSSIBILITY THAT THERE WAS AN APARTMENT AT LENINSKY 83 WHICH COULD BE AVAILABLE, AND BILL HAS ASKED THAT WE INQUIRE ABOUT THIS.

2. THOUGHT YOUR 10532, THE MORNING AFTER THE ECPC, WAS AN EXCELLENT PIECE COMBINING PRESS, SOURCE COMMENT, AND CONFIDENTIAL

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ANALYSIS--JUST THE KIND OF PIECE I REFERRED TO IN MY LETTER

ON REPORTING. WE DID A BRIEFING MEMO (WHICH WE ARE POUCHING) AND A GUIDANCE CABLE (WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT GET SIGNED OFF) WHICH STRESSES SOME OF THE SAME THEMES THAT YOU DID AND SUGGESTS THAT THE SOVIETS WILL STRIVE FOR THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS BY PLAYING THE AUTONOMY THEME IN THE WEST AND THE SOLIDARITY THEME IN THE EAST.

3. WE JUST GOT A DEPARTMENT NOTICE LISTING JUNIOR OFFICER PROMOTIONS. MIKE LEMMON AND LARRY NAPPER ARE ON FOR 0-7 TO 0-6. CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE SOV CREW.

4. RE MOSCOW 10082, WE ARE SORRY THAT WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO GET YOU A RESPONSE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE HAVE BEEN CONTACTS BETWEEN NEWSWEEK AND THE PEOPLE INVOLVED HERE AND THAT AN "INFORMAL LETTER" HAS BEEN SENT TO NEWSWEEK BY THEM. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE LETTER REFERS NEWSWEEK TO THE FEB 11 PUBLIC STATEMENT WHICH STATES THAT THERE ARE NO FULL TIME AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ON THE PAYROLL, BUT THAT LETTER SPECIFICALLY ASKS THAT THIS NOT BE USED IN A SOVIET COURT. THE GREAT HOPE THERE IS THAT THE WHOLE MATTER WILL DIE OUT, BUT WE NOW UNDERSTAND THIRD-HAND FROM NEWSWEEK THAT ANOTHER LITGAZ ARTICLE WILL BE PUBLISHED TOMORROW ALLEGING THAT HE WAS ENGAGED IN "CRIMINAL" ACTIVITIES. WE SUSPECT THAT HE WILL PRESS YOU AGAIN ON PROVIDING HIM WITH SOMETHING FOR USE IN COURT, BUT WE SEE NO WAY THAT EMBASSY OFFICER COULD APPEAR ON HIS BEHALF OR THAT EMBASSY COULD MAKE ANY KIND OF STATEMENT ABOUT HIS EMPLOYMENT BY USG BEYOND EQUIPPING HIM WITH FEB 11 STATEMENT. OUR TACTIC NOW WILL BE TO PREPARE NEGATIVE RESPONSE TO MOSCOW 10082 AND CLEAR IT HERE IN ORDER TO SMOKE SOMETHING OUT.
ROBINSON

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